FROM THE CREATOR OF DEAD@17

BLACK HARVEST

by JOSH HOWARD

DDP

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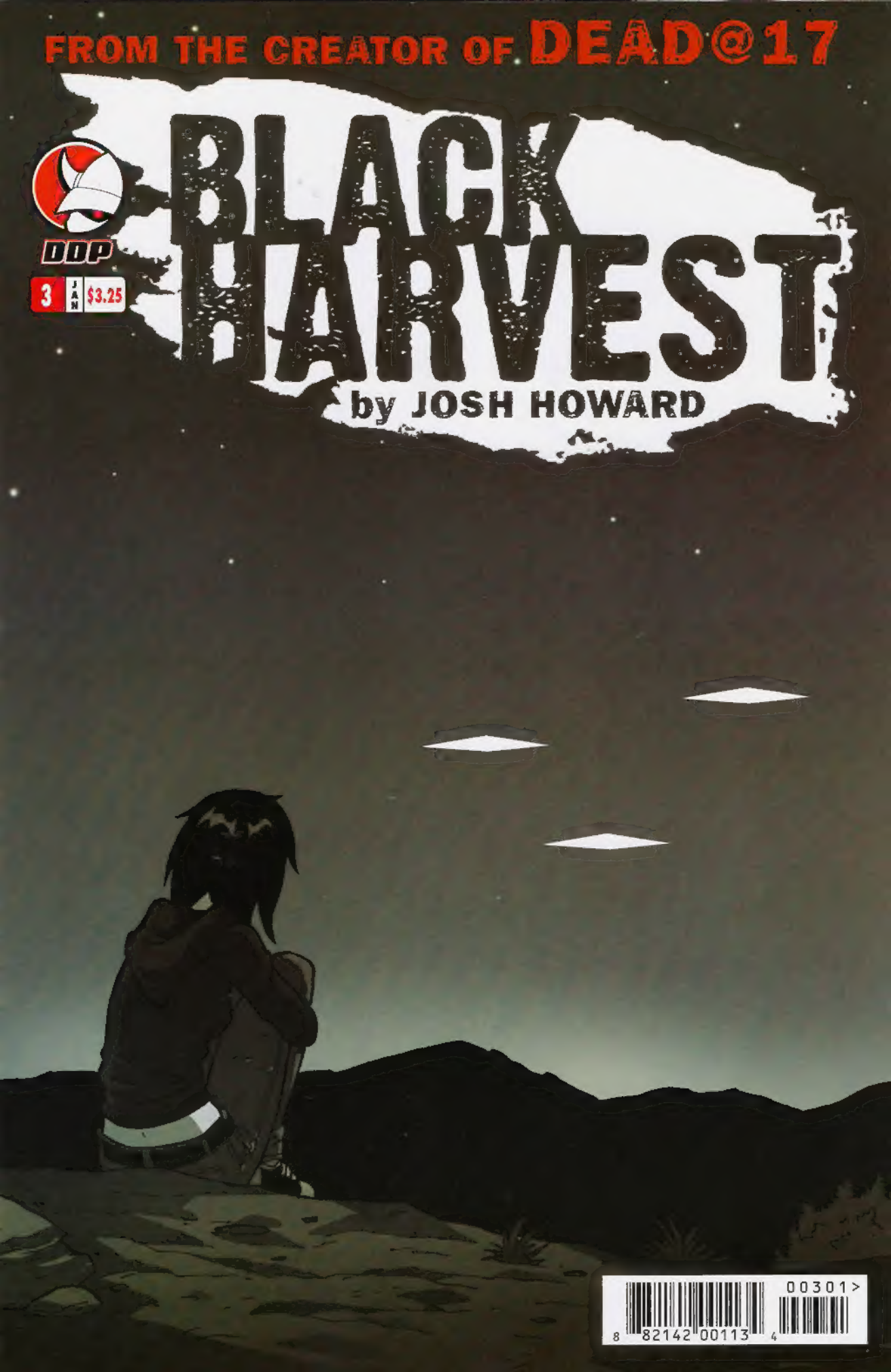

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by JOSH HOWARD

Lettered by BRIAN J. CROWLEY

The burning death of Nurse Thompson prompts Daniel to investigate his blog's archives, where he discovers that burning deaths have occurred in Jericho before – at the time of Zaya's disappearance. Meanwhile, Zaya demands to be released from the hospital and returned home to her aunt. Things get stranger for Daniel when he notices a mysterious black figure walking across the parking lot of his motel. Shortly afterwards, Zaya shows up, demanding to tag along with Daniel to view the Jericho Lights.

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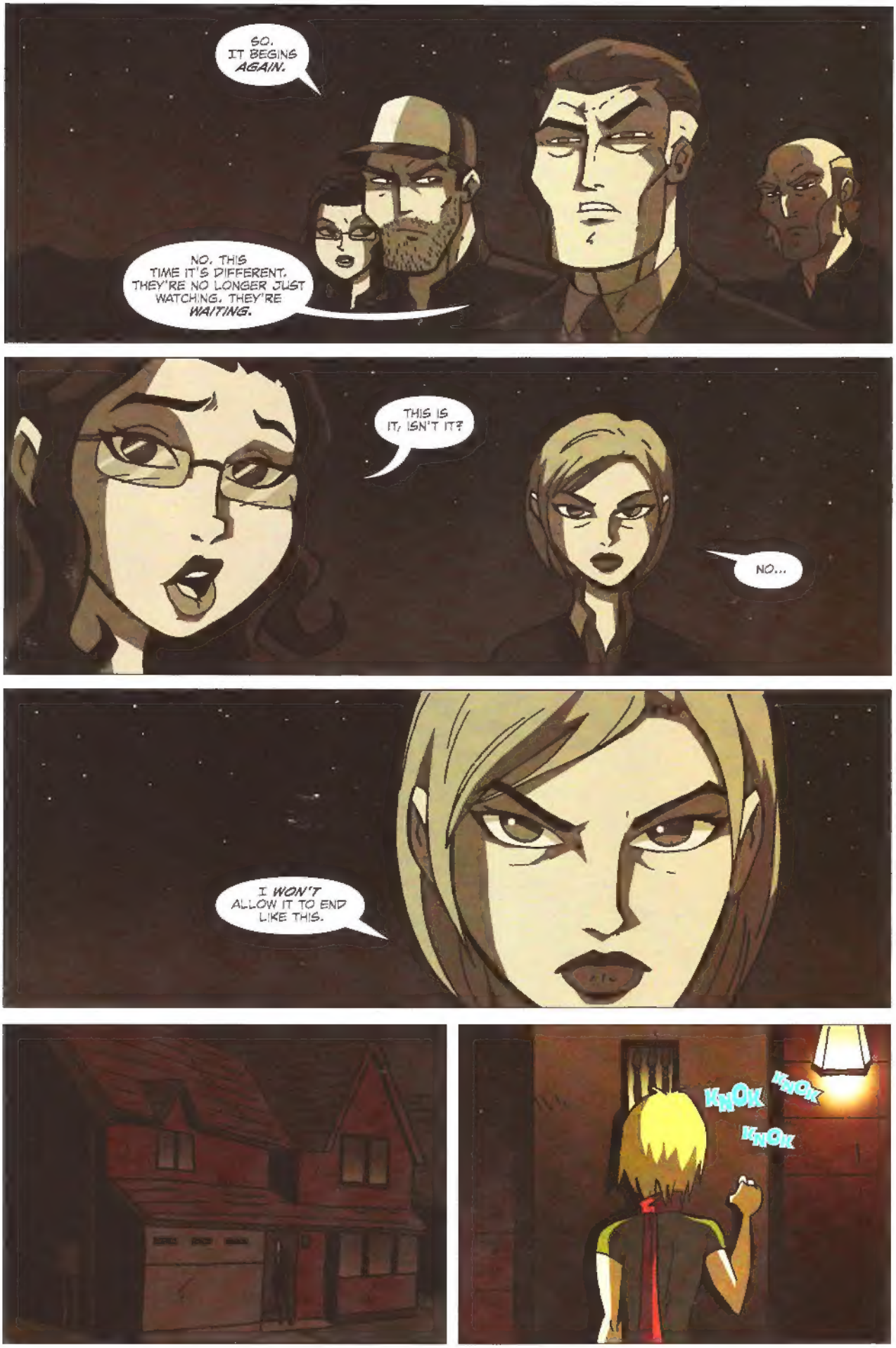

SO. IT BEGINS AGAIN.
NO. THIS TIME IT'S DIFFERENT. THEY'RE NO LONGER JUST WATCHING. THEY'RE WAITING.
THIS IS IT, ISN'T IT?
NO...
I WON'T ALLOW IT TO END LIKE THIS.
KNOK
KNOK
KNOK

YES?
HI, I'M NOLEE EDWARDS. I USED TO BE GOOD FRIENDS WITH ZAYA BEFORE... WELL, I WAS JUST STOPPING BY TO CHECK ON HER.
PLEASE COME IN, DEAR.
IT'S OKAY. IT'S BEEN HARD ON EVERYONE.
THANK YOU, MRS. HEWITT. I HOPE I'M NOT INTRUDING. IT'S JUST BEEN SO LONG...AND NO ONE EVEN THOUGHT SHE WAS STILL ALIVE; I MEAN--I'M SORRY, I'M JUST SO HAPPY SHE'S SAFE.
I'LL SEE IF SHE FEELS UP TO TALKING.
ZAYA? ZAYA, HONEY...A FRIEND OF YOURS IS HERE TO SEE YOU.
ZAYA?

YEAH, THIS IS IT.
JESSICA--
DANIEL? WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD BE PISSED OFF OR WORRIED.
I'M SORRY. THINGS HAVE JUST GOTTEN A LITTLE WEIRDER HERE.
DANIEL! ARE YOU COMING?
WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHO WAS THAT?
UMM... NOBODY.
I HEARD A GIRL'S VOICE. ARE YOU THERE HUNTING TEXAS GHOST LIGHTS OR IS THIS ANOTHER CHAPTER FROM THE DANIEL DOES AMERICA TOUR?
VERY FUNNY, I--
LOOK, I'VE REALLY GOT TO GO NOW. I'LL CALL YOU LATER.
DANIEL, I--
UH...SORRY ABOUT THAT.
GIRLFRIEND?
WHAT? HER? NO! NO...JUST AN ASSOCIATE.

C'MON!
WHOA! HOLD ON!
LOOK! OVER THERE...
I DON'T SEE ANYTHING.
SEE? JUST RIGHT OVER THOSE HILLS. DO YOU SEE THEM?
MY GOD. THEY'RE AMAZING.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHAT'S IT LOOK LIKE? I AM HERE TO DO STORY.
THE LIGHTS LAST FOR 6 DAYS. THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR PICTURES.
RIGHT NOW YOU JUST NEED TO SIT AND ENJOY THE VIEW.

LET ME GUESS. YOU THINK THEY'RE LITTLE GREEN MEN.
I NEVER SAID THAT.
BUT YOU BELIEVE THEY'RE EXTRATERRESTRIAL?
NOT NECESSARILY. BUT WHEN SCIENCE ISN'T ABLE TO OFFER A SATISFYING EXPLANATION, I THINK ONE SHOULD CONSIDER ALL POSSIBILITIES.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
WHAT ABOUT ME?
WELL... WHAT'S YOUR TAKE?
I DON'T THINK THEY CAN BE EXPLAINED.

I THINK THEY'RE SOMETHING ELSE... SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL, YET ALTOGETHER FRIGHTENING. I DON'T THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO ASK WHAT THEY ARE, BUT "WHY."
THAT'S... INTERESTING. ALMOST SOUNDS A LITTLE RELIGIOUS.
JUST AN OBSERVATION.
YOU KNOW, ZAYA... I REALIZE WE DON'T REALLY KNOW EACH OTHER, BUT IF YOU WANT TO TALK...YOU KNOW, ABOUT THINGS...
I KNOW YOU THINK YOU WANT TO HELP, BUT YOU DON'T.
YOU DON'T WANT TO BE A PART OF THIS, DANIEL.

WELL, LOOK AT THIS. YOUR AUNT'S WORRIED SICK ABOUT YOU, GIRL. AND YOU, MR. WEBSTER...
THIS IS NOT HOW IT LOOKS, I SWEAR! SHE'S HERE OF HER OWN FREE WILL!
HEY!
SHE JUMPED!

I GOT HER! YOU STAY WITH MARTIAN BOY!
STOP! WE'RE HERE TO HELP!
SONUVABITCH.

GOTCHA.
AAAAAAHHH!
GOOD GOD.

NOLEE!
SHE WASN'T THERE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
SHE WAS GONE, DAD... SHE RAN AWAY, I GUESS.
NEXT TIME SEND SOMEONE ELSE TO DO YOUR DIRTY WORK!
DIRTY WORK? HONEY, I JUST NEEDED TO KNOW IF SHE WAS OKAY.
WHATEVER, DAD. BUT ME PRETENDING TO BE HER FRIEND WAS JUST WRONG.
I'M SORRY, NOLEE. YOU'RE RIGHT, I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED YOU TO DO THAT.
MOM WANTS TO KNOW WHEN YOU'RE COMING HOME.

SOON... I'VE JUST GOT A LOT GOING ON RIGHT NOW.
ALRIGHT. WE JUST MISS YOU.
I KNOW. LISTEN, NOLEE, THERE'S BEEN SOMETHING I'VE BEEN WANTING TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT. YOU NOW THE SPECIAL PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR PROMISING HONOR STUDENTS?
YEAH. DIDN'T NURSE THOMPSON'S DAUGHTER GET PICKED FOR THAT A COUPLE YEARS AGO?
RIGHT. WELL, I SPOKE TO THE COUNCIL LAST WEEK AND THEY'VE SELECTED *YOU* FOR THIS YEAR'S CANDIDATE.
EM
WHAT? OH MY GOSH, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
ARE YOU *SERIOUS?*
DEFINITELY. YOUR GRADES, YOUR VOLUNTEER WORK HERE AT THE HOSPITAL... THEY THINK YOU'RE THE *PERFECT* CHOICE. NOW, THEY NEED TO MEET WITH YOU TONIGHT, SO GO HOME, GET READY, AND I'LL BE BY TO PICK YOU UP LATER. REMEMBER, DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS YET.
I WON'T! THANKS, DAD!

CHIEF! YOU OKAY?
LET HIM GO.
BUT WE'VE GOT THIS GUY--
I SAID LET HIM GO!
GO HOME, MR. WEBSTER.

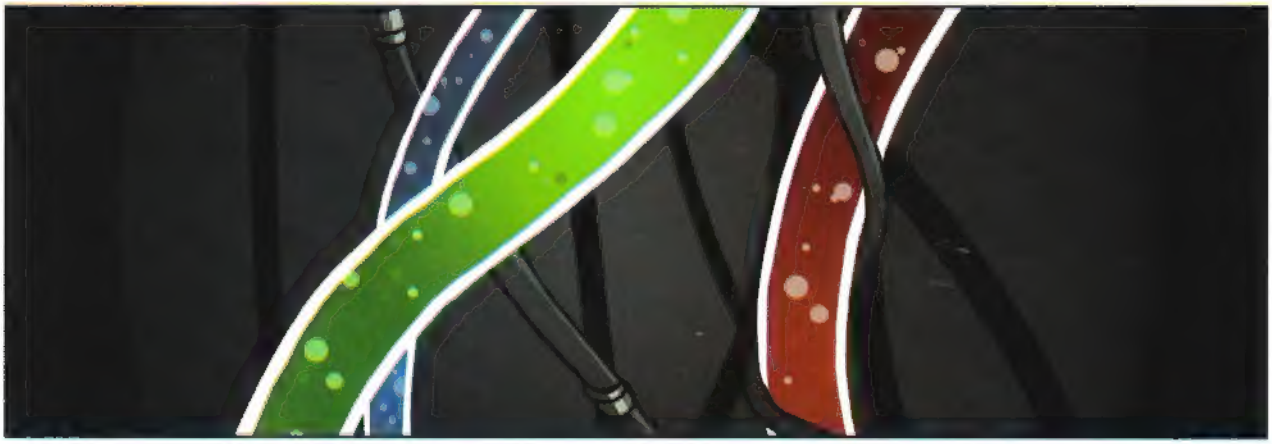
...EMERGENCY SITUATION!
...VITALS ERRATIC...
SUBJECT NOT RESPONDING.
...DOWNLOAD COMMENCING...
...STABIL ZING...

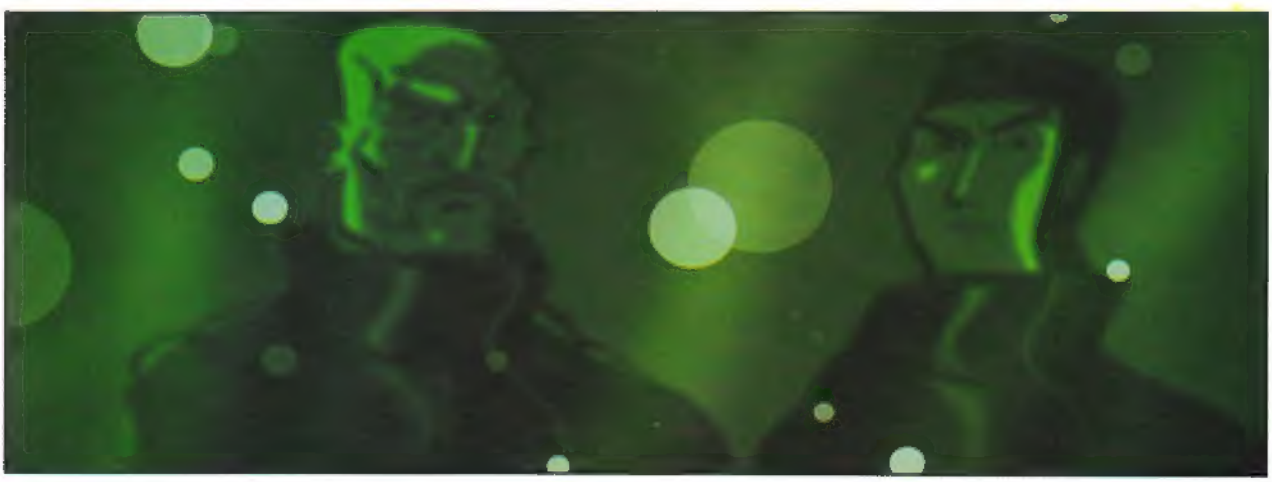
BUT THE GIRL... HER RETURN CHANGES EVERYTHING. THEY'VE SENT HER BACK TO KILL US ALL!
I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN.
FOUR OF US ARE DEAD ALREADY! WHY SHOULD WE BELIEVE YOU?
I DON'T FEAR THEM. WHERE IS YOUR FAITH? HAVE I EVER LED US ASTRAY?
IT IS YOUR FAITH IN EDWARDS THAT HAS PUT US HERE. WE HAVE ALL GIVEN--SACRIFICED OUR OWN BLOOD FOR THE HEGEMONY! WHY SHOULD HE BE ANY DIFFERENT?
EDWARDS IS TRUE TO US. HE WILL COME THROUGH. AFTER THE INCIDENT WITH THOMAS VAHN, I THINK EVERYONE REALIZES THE PRICE OF BETRAYAL.
UM. IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.
DEAN!
I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY. I HOPE THEY'RE HAPPY.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
NOLEE IS WITH ME.
OH, DEAN... I'M SO PROUD OF YOU. I KNEW MY FAITH IN YOU WAS NOT MISPLACED.

I KNOW IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE IT NOW, BUT YOU'VE DONE THE RIGHT THING, DEAN.
DON'T... TOUCH ME.
BY THE WAY, YOU SHOULD KNOW... ZAYA'S GONE MISSING AGAIN.
IOS 062

ZAYA!
ZAYA!

AREA 49
MILITARY RESEARCH
FACILITY





TO BE CONTINUED...

BLACK HARVEST

PIN-UP

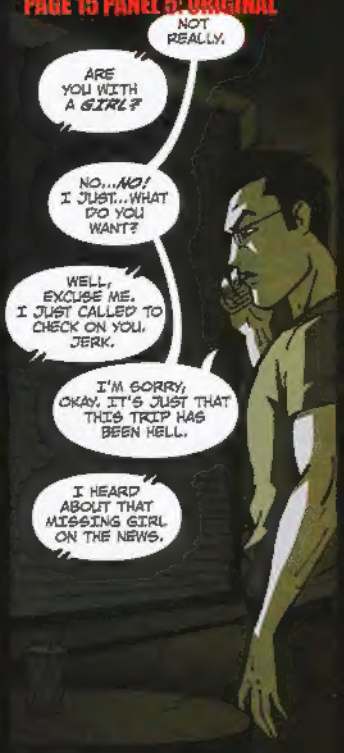
by GUY LEMAY

http://www.slingshot.to/pinballcomics

PAGE 15 PANEL 5: CORRECTED

NOT REALLY.
ARE YOU WITH A GIRL?
NO...NO! I JUST...WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WELL, EXCUSE ME. I JUST CALLED TO CHECK ON YOU, JERK.
I'M SORRY, OKAY. IT'S JUST THAT THIS TRIP HAS BEEN HELL.
I HEARD ABOUT THAT MISSING GIRL ON THE NEWS.
YEAH...ABOUT THAT. NEED YOU TO DO SOME DIGGING FOR ME. SEE THAT YOU CAN FIND OUT ABOUT THE GIRL'S PARENTS. I'M COMING UP BLANK.

PAGE 15 PANEL 5: ORIGINAL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ARE YOU WITH A GIRL?
NO...NO! I JUST...WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WELL, EXCUSE ME. I JUST CALLED TO CHECK ON YOU, JERK.
I'M SORRY, OKAY. IT'S JUST THAT THIS TRIP HAS BEEN HELL.
I HEARD ABOUT THAT MISSING GIRL ON THE NEWS.

PAGE 17 PANEL 2: CORRECTED

PAGE 17 PANEL 2: ORIGINAL

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